



DEF/RCF  
#807

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q86135

Eiji ICHIHARA, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/524,262

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: February 11, 2005

For: PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR JUDGING RESIDUAL LIFETIME AND END STAGE  
OF RUN-FLAT TIRE DURING CONTINUOUS RUNNING AT A RUN-FLAT STATE AS  
WELL AS PROGRAM-RECORDED RECORD MEDIUM

REQUEST FOR REFUND

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P.O. Box 1450

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Sir:

Applicants hereby respectfully request a refund in the amount of \$100.00. This refund is to be credited to Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Applicants believe that revised 37 C.F.R. § 1.492 allows reduced search and/or examination fees for applications in which the national fee was not filed before December 8, 2004. The above-referenced application was filed on February 11, 2005, with a copy of the International Search Report. (A copy of the transmittal letter, PTO stamped Serial Number Card and ISR is attached.) Therefore, Applicants believe they are entitled to the reduced fee. A duplicate copy of this paper is also attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert M. Masters

Registration 001720033 SNAJARRD 00000127 10524262

02 FC:1632

-500.00 0P

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC

Telephone: (202) 293-7060

Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: March 12, 2005 RWWHITE1 00000007 10524262

01 FC:1642

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National Stage Entry of PCT/JP03/010270  
REQUEST FOR EARLY NOTIFICATION OF SERIAL NUMBER

Inventor(s): Eiji ICIHARA, Yoshinori IMAMURA, Takehiko YAMADA

Title: PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR JUDGING RESIDUAL  
LIFETIME AND END STAGE OF RUN-FLAT TIRE DURING  
CONTINUOUS RUNNING AT A RUN-FLAT STATE AS WELL AS  
PROGRAM-RECORDED RECORD MEDIUM

Atty Doc. #: Q86135 Client: SUGIMURA INTERNATIONAL PATENT

Filing Date: February 11, 2005 # Pgs. Spec/Abst: 32/1 #Claims: 21 #<sup>d</sup>  
1" 2 pages of WO 2004/013671 A1 copy of PCT/IB/394  
# Dwg. Sheets: 8 sheets Decl no Prelim Amdt yes

ISR/PTO/SB/08 A & B/Prior Art: yes Asgmt: no Fee: \$1810.00

☒ Check Attached ☐ Charge to Deposit # 19-4880 Atty/Sec: RMM/ecb

SERIAL NO.:

CONF NO.:



Repln. Ref: 05/11/2005 RWHITE1 0012025700  
DAH:194880 Name/Number:10524262  
FC: 9204 \$100.00 CR

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP03/10270

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
Int.Cl<sup>7</sup> B60C23/20, G01K13/08

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
Int.Cl<sup>7</sup> B60C23/00-23/20, G01K13/08, B60C17/00-17/10

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Jitsuyo Shinan Koho	1926-1996	Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho	1994-2003
Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho	1971-2003	Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho	1996-2003

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 01/17806 A1 (THE GOODYEAR TIRE & RUBBER CO.), 15 March, 2001 (15.03.01), Full text; Figs. 1 to 4	14-21 1-4, 11, 12
Y	& JP 2003-508299 A Full text; Figs. 1 to 4	
Y	US 6259361 B1 (Prince Corp.), 10 June, 2001 (10.06.01), Column 3, lines 11 to 42; Fig. 1 (Family: none)	1-4, 11, 12
Y	WO 01/25034 A1 (THE GOODYEAR TIRE & RUBBER CO.), 12 April, 2001 (12.04.01), Page 7, line 28 to page 8, line 3; Figs. 1 to 2 & JP 2003-511287 A Par. No. [0027]; Figs. 1 to 2	4

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents:  
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance  
"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date  
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)  
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means  
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"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention  
"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone  
"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art  
"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search  
17 November, 2003 (17.11.03)

Date of mailing of the international search report  
02 December, 2003 (02.12.03)

Name and mailing address of the ISA/  
Japanese Patent Office

Authorized officer

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP03/10270

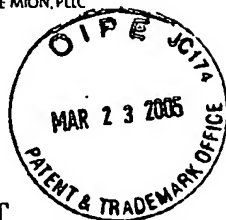
## C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	JP 62-87816 A (Nissan Motor Co., Ltd.), 22 April, 1987 (22.04.87), Full text; Figs. 1 to 4 (Family: none)	1-4, 11, 12
P, A	JP 2003-220810 A (The Yokohama Rubber Co., Ltd.), 05 August, 2003 (05.08.03), Full text; Figs. 1 to 2 (Family: none)	1-21
P, A	JP 2003-159918 A (Bridgestone Corp.), 03 June, 2003 (03.06.03), Full text; Figs. 1 to 4 (Family: none)	1-21



SUGHRUE MION, PLLC

Robert M. Masters  
T (202) 663-7434  
rmasters@sughrue.com



February 11, 2005

**MAIL STOP PCT**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. BOX 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PCT/JP2003/010270  
-filed August 12, 2003

2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20037-3213  
T 202.293.7060  
F 202.293.7860

401 Castro Street  
Mountain View, CA 94041-2007  
T 650.625.8100  
F 650.625.8110

AIG Bldg. 14F  
1-1-3 Marunouchi  
Chiyoda-ku Tokyo 100-0005  
Japan

T 03.5220.0200  
F 03.5220.0222

www.sughrue.com

Re: Application of Eiji ICHIHARA, Yoshinori IMAMURA, and Takehiko YAMADA  
PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR JUDGING RESIDUAL LIFETIME AND  
END STAGE OF RUN-FLAT TIRE DURING CONTINUOUS RUNNING AT  
A RUN-FLAT STATE AS WELL AS PROGRAM-RECORDED RECORD  
MEDIUM

Assignee: **BRIDGESTONE CORPORATION**  
Our Ref: Q86135

Dear Sir:

The following documents and fees are submitted herewith in connection with the above application for the purpose of entering the National stage under 35 U.S.C. §371 and in accordance with the Patent Cooperation Treaty:

- ☐ a copy of the executed Declaration and Power of Attorney.
- ☒ an English translation of the International Application. Also enclosed is a copy of the first two pages of WO 2004/014671 A1.
- ☒ 8 sheets of drawings.
- ☒ a copy of Notification Concerning Submission or Transmittal of Priority Document (Form PCT/IB/304).
- ☐ an English translation of Article 34 amendments (annexes to the IPER).
- ☐ a copy of the executed Assignment and PTO 1595 form.
- ☒ a PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) listing the ISR/IPER references. Also enclosed is a copy of the International Search Report.
- ☒ a copy of each reference (except the U.S. patent) cited in the ISR/IPER.
- ☒ a Preliminary Amendment.
- ☒ It is expressly requested that the national stage of processing be commenced immediately in accordance with 35 U.S.C. § 371(f).

A copy of the Declaration and Power of Attorney, and a copy of the Assignment will be submitted at a later date.



**Sughrue**

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC

Commissioner for Patents

February 11, 2005

Page 2

It is assumed that copies of the International Application, the International Preliminary Examination Report, and any Articles 19 and 34 amendments as required by §371(c) will be supplied directly by the International Bureau, but if further copies are needed, the undersigned will undertake to provide them upon request.

The Government filing fee is calculated, after entry of the Preliminary Amendment, as follows:

Total claims	29	-	20	=	9	x	\$50.00	=	\$450.00
Independent claims	2	-	3	=		x	\$200.00	=	\$0.00
							0		
Base Fee									\$300.00
Search Fee									\$500.00
Examination Fee									\$200.00
Multiple Dependent Claim Fee									\$360.00
<b>TOTAL FEE</b>									<b>\$1810.00</b>

A check for the statutory filing fee of \$1810.00 is attached. The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is attached.

Priority is claimed from:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Application No</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>
Japan	2002-234472	August 12, 1002
Japan	2002-241333	August 12, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

Robert M. Masters

Registration No. 35,603

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

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